

SUPPLYINSIDER

APRIL 2023 | [See the full archive](#)

AT A GLANCE

General Membership Meeting [invites registrations](#), VAN [introduces new forecasting tool](#), and a promising new partnership [is announced](#).

THE LATEST



General Membership Meeting 2023: Registration now open

Register now for the RHSC General Membership Meeting in Accra 16-20 October. Join us as we reflect on the pandemic's impact on money, markets, and movement, drawing lessons from our sector's response, and celebrating our unique resilience. Come prepared to take on

strategic questions about the RHSC's past successes, areas for change, and inclusion of our members. Our meeting will also explore both the immediate and longer-term financing landscape for sexual, reproductive, and maternal and menstrual health supplies in terms of donor funding, domestic resource mobilization, and new, innovative financing mechanisms. We extend our sincere gratitude to our co-host the Ghana Health Service, and we invite you to join us in Accra, 16-20 October 2023. [Please visit our meeting hub](#) for all registration information.

NUMBER OF THE MONTH

200+

The latest LAPTOP Scholarships Global Round received over 200 applications, from all over the world. Learn more about the benefits of the program, and why it's worth investing in it, from this at-a-glance [factsheet](#).

VAN rolls out its biggest milestone to date

In late March, the VAN's Consensus Planning Group came together in person for the first time since its launch three years ago during the COVID pandemic to witness the promise of a powerful new forecasting tool. The VAN CPG – a cross-organizational group – uses the VAN platform to address family planning commodity stock imbalances and prevent those imbalances from occurring at all. Participants were introduced to the VAN Demand Planning Module, which promises to significantly advance reproductive health demand forecasting across the community. Using artificial intelligence, historical shipment data are evaluated and combined with forecasted consumption, countries' supply plans, and the VAN analysts' own expertise. The resulting predictive analytics can help manufacturers to make more informed production decisions, procurers to plan better, and countries to be assured of adequate supplies to meet their demand. [Read more](#).



RHSC-SEMA MOU heralds strategic partnership

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between RHSC and the [SEMA Reproductive Health](#) partnership signals a significant development within the reproductive health supplies ecosystem. SEMA, which also recently became a member of both the RHSC and the VAN, was initiated last year to strengthen country and global partners' capacity to build healthy, equitable, and sustainable SRH markets. The MOU heralds a collaborative partnership working to increase commodity access and improve the use of market data. SEMA's membership of the RHSC affords it access to a platform of nearly 500 members of the RHSC's [Market Development Approaches Working Group](#), as well as all the RHSC's other [Implementing Mechanisms](#), while its 'Network Player' VAN membership will allow SEMA to leverage the VAN's network and data. [Read more.](#)



NLUM-PPH COF
NEW AND LESSER-USED PPH MEDICINES
CATALYTIC OPPORTUNITY FUND

Small grants to increase access to new & lesser-used PPH medicines

The RHSC Maternal Health Supplies Caucus is pleased to announce a new [small grants mechanism](#) to increase access to new and lesser-used medicines for postpartum hemorrhage (NLUM-PPH) capable of preventing and treating PPH. This will include heat-stable carbetocin (HSC) for prevention of PPH and tranexamic acid (TXA) for the treatment of PPH. By building on the lessons of the Clinton Health Access Initiative's (CHAI) successful regranting model—the Catalytic Opportunity Fund (COF)—and leveraging our own experience of managing small grants through our own Innovation Fund, we are offering seven to nine grants, each valued up to \$100,000, during the first year of this initiative. This initiative is supported by funding from MSD, through [MSD for Mothers](#), the company's global initiative to help create a world where no woman has to die while giving life. MSD for Mothers is an initiative of Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA. The initiative is also funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) of the United Kingdom Government. [Learn more about applying for a grant here.](#)



A conversation with Malawi’s VAN Ambassador Rose Chikumbe

Rose Chikumbe is passionate about the VAN and what it can do for Malawi’s supply chains. [In this interview](#), the logistics officer in Malawi’s health ministry talks about the importance of training VAN users and shares her dream of a future where district-level facilities have access to national and global data.

Job opportunity: Program Officer, LAC

The RHSC is currently recruiting a Program Officer to play a key role in the implementation of its 2021-2025 workplan specifically in relation to our Latin American and Caribbean geographic arm of the RHSC – [ForoLAC](#). The Program Officer will collaborate closely with the ForoLAC Regional Advisor. The role calls for excellent Spanish and English language writing and editing skills, as well as in-depth knowledge of reproductive health supplies and services, of the SRH landscape in the LAC region, of key stakeholders, and of current issues. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

IN THE CALENDAR

17-20 July | Kigali, Rwanda

[Women Deliver 2023](#)

9-12 October | Paris, France

[XXIV World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics](#)

16-20 October | Accra, Ghana

[General Membership Meeting of the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition](#)



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